



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Balazs Kralik; Michael Goldbach; Paul Dagum
Assignee: Rapt, Inc.
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ESTIMATION OF COMPONENT
GATING AND SHORTAGE RISK IN MANUFACTURING
OPERATIONS
Application No.: 09/942,249 Filed: August 29, 2001
Examiner: Johnna Ronee Loftis Group Art Unit: 3623
Docket No.: RAP0008US Confirmation No. 6169

Austin, Texas
August 15, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is timely submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 15, 2006, along with a petition for a three-month extension of time setting a new time period for response that expires on August 15, 2006. Further examination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks set forth below.

Amendments to the Specification begin on **page 3** and are presented in attached Substitute Specification. A copy of the Substitute Specification with markings to show the amendments is included as an appendix herewith. A clean copy of the Substitute Specification (without markings) is also included as an appendix herewith.

No amendments are made herein to the claims. A **Listing of the Claims** is presented for the convenience of the Examiner beginning on **page 4**.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on **page 8** of this paper and also include attached New Sheets 1-4 and Replacement Sheets 5-7.

Remarks/Arguments begin on **page 9** of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended **drawing sheets 1-7** is attached.

An **Appendix** including a copy of the **Substitute Specification with markings** to show the amendments to the Specification is attached.

An **Appendix** including a **clean copy of the Substitute Specification** (without markings) is attached.